

Cast Shaks Threw Out an Idea—Jere. Black Does Lewis—A Georgia Legislator For Hisself—Says Up B-cord—The Law Com-
mencement of Mr. Tilden Broke.

JEFF BLACK ON NATIONAL POLITICS.
Washington Post, September 30.

What about national politics?

What is I possibly tell you about national politics that you don't know already? I have the secret of no candidate in my keeping, and if I had it would not reveal it. Yes, I have opinions and hopes and fears like other citizens. The great issues upon which we carried the election of 1876 are with us as much as ever, but the accidents are against us. The coalition between Conkling and Kelly to defeat Robinson is a most serious affliction, and it is doing more to discourage the friends of honest government than anything that has happened within my remembrance. If it succeeds it will be a frightful wrong. Robinson has done the state much service, and they know it. All men admit that he is true to the people, and they ought to be true to him. He has indeed been a great public benefactor, as the statistics of expense and taxation show beyond doubt. Then Tilden proposes to sacrifice not only him, but the great public interests which he maintained because he had failed to please some of his leaders in the distribution of patronage. To think of such treachery is trying to the temper—enough to make a true democrat 'cure his better angel from his side and fall to repudiation.'

"Do you, like many other Pennsylvanians, think Tilden the most prominent candidate for the democratic nomination in 1880?"

"I don't think Tilden wants to be the candidate of 1880 but he can have the nomination if he is willing to take it. All the signs show that. The fraud of which he was the victim in 1876 gives him a hold upon the popular heart which is hard to lose. Besides, he is known to be a man consummately fitted for the first office in the nation—a thoughtful statesman, a studious scholar with a knowledge of practical affairs which gives his judgment almost infallible. As regards the once much-talked-of editorials, what do they prove? Why, this, and this only: That those loathsome miscreants who have returned in their hands tried to blackmail him; demanded money as the price of an editorial certificate, and a true return of that godless press is provided with a profitable office. There is double baseness in this. To reward men for corrupting election returns is ungodly; but to reward them for it is even more ungodly. It is the fraud of which he was the victim in 1876 which has put him in power. It is his presidency and his bad himself incurred all risks. This is unmitigated nonsense. If the house of representatives had declared him elected, then he would have been unfaithful to his duty, but he did not. The press which he has supported in congress permitted him and his constituents to be injured out of their rights, how could any man be a member of congress who committed that grave error throw the blame upon him?"

"Am I a Tilden man?"

"No, I am not a Tilden man. I am for the nominee of the national convention. My personal preference would be General Hancock, he was the first officer of his race in the regular army that lifted us up to say 'no' to the fornication of our liberty, and as long as I live I will be grateful to him for that, if nobody else is."

"I have said a good word for Hancock, but he has been cheated and he deserves a vindication."

SECRETARY SCHUYLER INTERVIEWED.

Denver (Colo.) Tribune, Sept. 23.

What do you think of the prospects of the republican party?

"I think its prospects of success are very hopeful if the republican party is true to its best instincts. The republican party has a great history and may boast of many great achievements, among them the abolition of slavery, the preservation of the union, and the restoration of our public credit. It may also be said to contain in its ranks a very large share of the intelligence and moral sense of the people, and in a great measure, an argument in its favor that it will be successful. But it can attract that element only by remaining true to the best standard of political, moral, and intelligent, and patriotic party with which it is associated. But if it can attract that element only by remaining true to the best standard of political, moral, and intelligent, and patriotic party with which it is associated, then it will be successful."

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The Constitution.

ATLANTA, GA., OCTOBER 2, 1879.

The treasury department presents us this time with a statement that shows a decrease in the amount of the public debt. The decrease is not large—about two and a half millions—but it is that much better than the results of a number of past months. The secretary is “collecting” up more closely than he has been in the habit of doing. Even his pet bank of New York city has been compelled to square its accounts with the government.

The Ohio and Iowa elections take place on Tuesday week, and the radical politicians are earnestly watching the south in the hope of finding something that can be worked up into a new “outrage.” They want a crime with a political bearing. Something of that sort from Mississippi would suit them best. The old lot have become so stale that none of them are warranted to operate on the sympathetic northern voter.

The drain of gold from Europe has become a serious matter to the banks “of the effete monarchies,” among which we suppose Mr. Z. Chandler places France. The steps taken to prevent its outflow to this country, if successful, must result in either a return of American securities or a partial stoppage of our exports—probably the former. The people of Europe can live without holding our securities, but not without our agricultural products.

The central system that the New York produce exchange has applied to the provision of trade, and proposes to apply to the grain trade on the first day of January, has long been employed by the Indian bureau and by the people of France, Italy and Spain. Even old-fashioned England is beginning to adopt it. Its ultimate adoption by the civilized world is inevitable, and we may as well, therefore, accustom ourselves to its innovations as rapidly as we can.

Forward with the Exodus.
Summing up the other day uncharming results of colored citizenship in the south, we stated that we were prepared to renew the exodus which promises to be the greater drag of the two. Nobody wants it in preference to greenbacks, whereas silver is in demand either as currency or for the purpose of procuring silver certificates. The indications now are that the silver coinage will soon be represented by silver certificates, which are everywhere received on the same footing as greenbacks, and which are so much expansion of the currency. It is short a success. It's the gold that is chiefly troubling—not us—but the men who howled themselves hoarse in denouncing a silver coinage.

The republican papers fairly bubble over with “encouraging” reports of the condition of trade. They are prepared to show that an era of legitimate prosperity is upon us, and that everybody either is or is about to be happy and wealthy. There is no overbearing, no false values, no speculations—all may be true, but we prefer to look over the ground after the racket of the campaign has subsided. A review of the different lines of business made about the first of January will show to what extent truth and fiction have been intermingled in getting up this new trade.

New York city wants and proposes to have a mint, although there is one within a hundred miles of that city, and no gold is mined within several hundred miles. Let us, however, indulge the hope that, after every eastern city is equipped with a mint, our congressmen will co-operate to secure the location of a mint in the south, we, the state of Georgia of a poor little assay office. The yearly product of our gold fields already justifies the location of such a establishment, but it is probable that we will have to wait until our gold product compels the government to give us something of the kind. Every eastern city must of course have a mint, and the sooner they get them the sooner perhaps will the needs of our gold belt receive attention.

Virginia's Debt Fight.

Virginia is in a white heat over her debt. The election does not take place until the 4th of November, but meetings are being held all over the state to discuss the questions that have grown out of the public debt. Between 200 and 300 speakers are on the stump, and the campaign is said to be without precedent in point of activity and interest in the history of the state. The whole matter of the public debt has crystallized into two plans. The readjusters, as they are called, led by General Mahone, are willing to pay three per cent interest upon the debt after West Virginia's share of it has been subtracted. This party leans towards repudiation, or at least to very arbitrary dealings with the state's creditors. The funders are rallying around the McCulloch bill. Under the provisions of this bill one-third of the debt would be scaled off to West Virginia, and then the state would pay on the balance three per cent for ten years, four per cent for ten years, and five per cent for twenty-five years, with coupons. Under this plan the accrued and unpaid interest would be capitalized, thus bringing the acknowledged debt of the state up to about \$32,000,000. Provision is also made for a sinking fund of two per cent, to go into effect in 1883.

The war was between the readjusters and the funders a bitter one, but, we judge, not a doubtful one. The funders have decidedly the upper hand. The business men, as a rule, support the McCulloch bill, and so do most of the democratic leaders. The result, it may depend upon the colored vote, but it is generally understood that the republican leaders and the administration party will as a rule sustain the McCulloch plan. There is a feeling throughout the state that the readjusters would not be able to attain to a settlement of the vexed matter, and this alone probably induces business men and capitalists to favor the McCulloch bill, which would confessedly put out of politics the whole debt question.

Tammamny Beaten in the Courts.

The extraordinary session of the general term of the New York supreme court issued on Monday a writ of prohibition restraining the special term from taking any action in the case of Police Commissioner Nichols, who was removed by Mayor Cooper. This is a severe blow to Tammany hall. Kelly had relied on Judge Westbrook to reinstate Commissioner Nichols long enough to enable him, acting in conjunction with two republican commissioners, to hand over the control of the 500 polling places in New York city to the republicans and Tammany men. His programme was to have each board of in-

spectors consist of two republicans, one Tammany man and one regular democrat. This game was frustrated by the calling by the governor of an extra session of the general term, which had power to stop the judges who were acting alone, and exercised it. The struggle for the control of the police commission, which is required to push forward the exodus column, we are ready and anxious to turn the negro and the problems that perplex him, serious soul over to the tender mercies of the people of the north. Let the exodus committee give the word.

The Railroad Discussion.

The recent letter of Colonel H. S. Haines, general superintendent of the Atlantic and Gulf railroad, published in THE CONSTITUTION, led the senate committee on railroads to extend him an invitation to appear before them and discuss the question of railroad legislation more in detail and with greater elaboration. At the request of Mr. Lumpkin, the chairman of the committee, the views of Colonel Haines have been embodied in a pamphlet form, and a friend in Savannah has been thoughtful enough to send a copy.

Taking all the circumstances into consideration, this little pamphlet is the most important contribution that has yet been made to the discussion and it is to be hoped it will have a large circulation among those who are most nearly interested in the question of which it treats. It is not, as might be supposed, written altogether from the point of view of a railroad manager. On the contrary, its most striking quality is the philosophical candor with which the question is approached and discussed; and when it would seem to lead towards the corporations, the reader at once perceives that the tendency of the argument is shaped by an intimate knowledge of the difficulties under which the railroads labor, and of the various vexing problems with which they have to contend. If we do not mistake the drift of Colonel Haines's remarks, his purpose is to show that THE CONSTITUTION has attempted to show for two years past, that the real interests of the people and the railroads are identical, and that the natural relations of each to the other are harmonious; and he does show most clearly what we have maintained most persistently, that while railroads have nothing to fear from wise and equitable legislation, the people have nothing to gain and much to lose from legislation that shall be the means of crippling the corporations.

While the pamphlet of Colonel Haines is elaborate and of great value as embodying the views not only of a railroad expert, but of an original thinker and a profound student of the philosophy of human affairs, there are some important branches of the subject he fails to discuss. He alludes to the evils of railroad extortion, but he fails to follow up its logic as fully as we might have been led to expect; and this, after all, is the very pit and marrow of the whole question. All unjust railroad discriminations—all overcharges—all endeavors to escape the results of legitimate competition—amount to extortion. And this seems to be the prevailing opinion of the nation.

We believe they are solving the problem of freedom and citizenship as rapidly and as happily as is consistent with their condition and opportunities. We are impressed with the idea that the south and the southern people are better fitted to further their material and educational progress than any other section or people on the face of the globe. We believe that if they were let alone they would work out their own future in the south and that it would be a prosperous and happy one. We know that their condition to-day is in every respect superior to that of the white laborers of the north, or to that of the white laborers of any country. Therefore, we contend that the department of agriculture is building up the state in one of the most essential, not to say the least expected particulars.

We think it demonstrable that hundreds of thousands of settlers have been and are gradually coming into our state from every point of the compass in search of the home of peace and plenty assured them by the little volume above mentioned.

Two Ohio organs are beginning reluctantly to admit that General Hines is still a candidate for governor and will receive some scattering votes. We regard this admission as the next thing to a democratic victory.

NEW ENGLAND needs the civilization of the gallows just now.

It is claimed that the Connecticut woman who shot her husband while he was asleep is no politician. This is too thin. We have heard the story before. The day past when the solid south can witness affairs of this kind without entering a protest.

Tarzan is credited with the remark that Beaconsfield must go.

There is one question we would venture to ask the Concord philosophers before they disband for the season: Does Emerson hold that the primal relations of the doodoo to a normal state of society have any appreciable bearing upon the motives that prompted the Rev. Mr. Hayden, of Connecticut, to endeavor to conceal his connection with current politics by cutting a young girl's throat? In other words, do the elementary, but insubordinate, emotions of a naturally sensitive organism ultimately justify the expression of the vital spark from its morbid temperament?

The polo players at Newport have set the fashion of shaving the hair off their arms.

Cyrus accuses our Uncle Samuel of everything except a tendency to write poetry. This is an indiscretion of which the rightfully elected president was never guilty. If we are not mistaken, Mr. Marion Marlin was engaged as a poet in the campaign of 1870.

The disappearance of Redpath continues permanent. Republican committees are liable to go astray hereafter for lack of an engineer.

They say now that Justice Miller denies telling the truth about the Louisiana vote. A republican member of the electoral commission can afford to deny anything.

Another walking-match has already begun in New York. Upon top of polo, coaching-clubs and the affair just concluded, this would seem to be enough to irritate even the intellectual depravity of Gotham.

are entitled to consideration, not merely because of his technical and special knowledge of railroading, but because of his intellectual equipment, which is of a kind rarely to be found confined to the desk of a corporation manager. It is to be hoped that other railroad managers will join the discussion. General Alexander, we believe, has already given his views to the committee: why should they not be given to the public? What is to prevent Governor Brown, General McRae, Colonel Forence, Colonel Houston, Mr. Wadley, Colonel William Rogers and Colonel George W. Adams from giving their views to the legislature and to the public?

—It is announced that Senator Kernan will take the stump for Robinson on the 10th of October, and will place himself at the disposal of the Tammany committee from that time onward. It is said also that ex-Governor Seymour will be heard on the same side before the campaign closes.

—The leaves begin to fall.

—Or to be more correct,

From the tree,

The leaves are falling,

Nor do the butterflies wing,

And the autumn thing.

On the festive youth of the period.

—The person who was recently arrested for attempting to enter the place at Constitution and Peachtree streets, Atlanta, is believed, at the instigation of an influential person, who is said, hired him to pretend that he intended to kill the salutes ordered by that man.

—The man made his make,

He bailed a soldier to murder him.

—The plague of wild beasts and snakes in India is extraordinary indeed. Snakes alone in 1877 killed nearly 17,000 persons, and the number of snakes in India is said to be 200,000,000. Efforts were made at the same time to destroy the animals, but without apparent reduction of the number.

—In a long conversation with Commissioner Henderson, the new appointee, we learned that he himself was not heretofore fully aware of the number and extent of the publications of the department, and the demand for them from all parts of the United States.

—To say nothing of the Manual of Georgia, which has been in great request since its publication, which is over one year ago, and which has been widely distributed throughout the entire country; or of the “Manual of Sheep Husbandry,” one of the earliest publications of the department, and which has been largely instrumental in directing public attention to Georgia as a sheep-growing state, our attention was more particularly called, by the commissioner, to a little pamphlet entitled “Georgia from an Emigrant Settler's Standpoint,” which was a happy afternoon of the late commissioner upon the discovery that there was a deficiency in the “Manual of Georgia” that it did not contain such positive proof of the good order and safety that reigns in Georgia and the kindly welcome that is extended to all new comers of good character from whatever clime. Copies of this little book was sent to leading northern and western newspapers, and as a result Commissioner Henderson assures us that from a half to one dozen letters are daily received from all portions of the union, but mainly from Pennsylvania and North Carolina, making inquiries about Georgia with reference to a settlement therein. From what he has seen himself and from information derived from clerks in the department, he thinks the enquiry in this line will extend to many hundred. Now we shall see that this effort is in the right direction, for if the planting interest of Georgia needs anything it is capital and labor. Upon the established basis that each adult laborer is worth \$1,000, to the commonwealth, it will be seen that the department of agriculture is building up the state in one of the most essential, not to say the least expected particulars.

—While the pamphlet of Colonel Haines is elaborate and of great value as embodying the views not only of a railroad expert, but of an original thinker and a profound student of the philosophy of human affairs, there are some important branches of the subject he fails to discuss.

—He alludes to the evils of railroad extortion, but he fails to follow up its logic as fully as we might have been led to expect; and this, after all, is the very pit and marrow of the whole question.

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